

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 H-02 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00 COME-00 MCE-00 L-03  
INRE-00 /041 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ANZ:FBENNETT:CB  
APPROVED BY EA: MR. OAKLEY  
PM - LCOL. STEINER (DRAFT)  
H - RFLATEN (INFORMED)  
-----002459 011905Z /12  
O 011853Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 167943

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, AS

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY-GOA SALE OF EX-RAAF C-130  
AIRCRAFT

1. DEPT/EA HAS RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM CONGRESSMAN CHAPEL'S  
OFFICE REGARDING THE SALE BY THE GOA DEPT OF ADMINISTRATIVE  
SERVICES (DAS) OF 12 EX-RAAF C-130A AIRCRAFT. INQUIRY IS  
ON BEHALF OF MR. LOUIS T. RANSOM, GLOBAL JET SALES,  
6615 EAST ROSEDALE, FT. WORTH, TEXAS (OFFICE TEL 817:429,  
HOME 817:268-1971). FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED EA/ANZ  
BY CONGRESSMAN'S OFFICE AND RANSOM'S WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE  
MR. RANDOLPH PROTHRO, HUNT ENTERPRISES.

2. MR. RANSOM BID ON THE C-130'S THROUGH AN AGENT,  
MR. HANK LINDNER, HOUSE OF LINDNER, ADELAIDE (TEL 262-5118).  
TENDER REQUIRED DEPOSIT OF 5 PERCENT OF THE BID WHICH WAS  
DUELY MADE. AWARD OF TENDER IS SUBJECT TO USG AND CON-  
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GRESSIONAL APPROVAL UNDER CURRENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS  
SINCE AIRCRAFT WERE SOLD UNDER GOVT-TO-GOVT AGREEMENT.  
TENDER WAS CLOSED FEB 9, 1978, BUT SUCCESSFUL BIDDER HAS  
NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED.

3. MR. RANSOM REPORTEDLY BELIEVES HIMSELF TO HAVE SUB-  
MITTED THE SECOND HIGHEST BID. HE ALSO BELIEVES THAT THE

RIGHT TO PURCHASE THE AIRCRAFT WILL REVERT TO HIM, THE SECOND HIGHEST BIDDER, BECAUSE THE HIGHEST BIDDER, AN AUSTRALIAN PERSON OR FIRM, WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE ASSURANCES REGARDING THE ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF THE AIRCRAFT. BECAUSE HE BELIEVED THAT HE WOULD ULTIMATELY BE AWARDED THE TENDER, HE HAS OBTAINED REGISTRATION NUMBERS FOR THE AIRCRAFT FROM THE FAA, IS IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING FERRY PERMITS, HAS CONTRACTED WITH PANAM FOR CATERING AND SERVICES AT PAGO PAGO, AND HAS CONTRACTED WITH FOUR C-130-QUALIFIED CREWS TO FERRY THE PLANES. HOWEVER, MR. RANSOM HAS RECENTLY HEARD THAT BECAUSE OF "DOMESTIC POLITICAL FACTORS" DAS HAS DECIDED TO REOPEN BIDDING RATHER THAN ANNOUNCE THE WINNER OF THE ORIGINAL BID AND REQUEST PERMISSION FROM THE USG TO MAKE THE SALE. HE BELIEVES THAT THIS MAY TAKE PLACE AS EARLY AS JULY 3.

4. CONGRESSMAN CHAPEL'S OFFICE HAS REQUESTED THAT DEPT/EA LOOK INTO THIS MATTER ON AN URGENT BASIS. EMBASSY IS THEREFORE REQUESTED TO MAKE SUITABLE INQUIRIES AND REPORT BY IMMEDIATE CABLE OR TELEPHONE TO EA/ANZ. IN THE MEANTIME, MR. RANSOM IS CONSIDERING FLYING OUT TO AUSTRALIA AND MAY BE CALLING ON THE EMBASSY. IF HE DOES SO, DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE BEING EXTENDED TO HIM.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE167943  
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**Drafter:** FBENNETT:CB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 1852725  
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**Subject:** CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY-GOA SALE OF EX-RAAF C-130 AIRCRAFT  
**TAGS:** MASS, AS  
**To:** CANBERRA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014